

Rebuild Treasure Valley Idaho

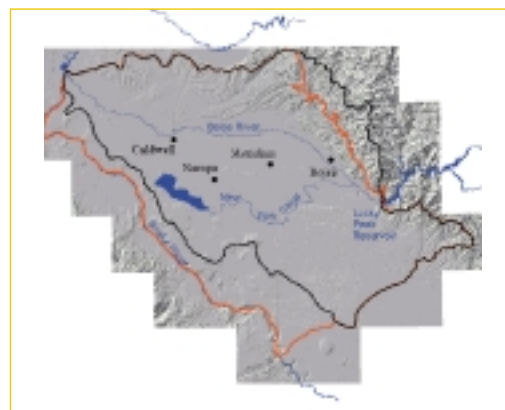
Over the past 2 1/2 years, Idaho has developed a successful State Rebuild America program with more than 15 community partnerships, including the state's two largest school districts, the first and third largest universities, the state's most populous county and second and fourth largest cities. The partnership's quick success is due in large part to its personal conviction for capturing resource and energy savings within a community. During this time, Idaho has made significant positive changes and hopes to continue the trend with their new program.

In 1995, the Urban Land Institute was asked to assemble an advisory services panel on growth management strategies for the Treasure Valley, Idaho, region. Through the panel's and Boise Mayor Brent Cole's recommendation, local governments in the Treasure Valley met for the first time in June 1997, as the Treasure Valley Institute.

The Treasure Valley Partnership Agreement

In June 1997 a platform for partnership development and program implementation was composed and signed as the Treasure Valley Partnership (TVP). The TVP partnership committed to working together to balance land use, transportation, economic development and environmental protection goals. The goal of the project is to enhance economic development, community well-being and

environmental sustainability within the Treasure Valley. The development of two key partnerships, Ada County and the City of Caldwell, located in Canyon County, bordering Ada County, has built momentum for partnership formation within the Valley and offers further potential for new partnerships within seven other valley communities.



The Treasure Valley, encompassing Ada and Canyon County, is working together to enhance the economic and environmental sustainability of the region.

The focus of the Rebuild Treasure Valley Idaho project is the conservation of energy and more efficient use of existing buildings and their supporting resources. Through this new approach, a win-win scenario, will be developed to enhance the local and regional environment by implementing performance contracting, allowing Treasure Valley Community Partnership to move beyond their largest barrier—lack of funds for building improvements.

PARTNERSHIP FACTS:

- **Targeted Buildings:**
City and county buildings, school facilities, college and university buildings
- **Total Square Footage:**
Over 9 million square feet
- **Pollution Prevention:**
CO₂-12.6 million lbs, SO₂-183,410 lbs, NO_x-15,900 lbs. in emission reductions
- **Estimated Cost Savings:**
Potential for \$13 million of private investment in municipal, school and college/university buildings, and the potential for \$32 million of present value energy savings. Each energy dollar saved circulates throughout the community an average of 10 times

This project will seek to utilize performance contracting to retrofit over 9 million square feet of municipal, K-12 schools, and college and university buildings in the Treasure Valley area over a two-year period. The first year will focus on implementing a municipal program, an effort to establish Rebuild Idaho partnerships within the nine TVP cities and counties and beginning a process of performance contracting. In the second year, a committee of mayors and county commissioners from the partnership will directly market the program to Treasure Valley K-12 school districts and universities.

How TVP Will Work

Each community, school district, college and university will develop a five-year energy and resource use action plan as Rebuild Idaho partnerships. These plans will contain a shared set of efficiency principles and long-term sustainable actions that will add value to existing cooperative efforts and create a greater sense of regional cohesion and community.

Current expenditures for water and energy in Valley municipal, K-12 and college/university buildings exceed \$18 million annually. A substantial 20-30 percent of these dollars could be saved and put to other uses such as new curriculum, increased building air quality and building infrastructure maintenance.

Over the next two years, nine new community partnerships will be established in Idaho's Treasure Valley region. The project will purposely seek to retrofit over 10 million square feet of municipal, K-12 school, college and university buildings through performance contracting over a two-year period.

The Potential to Shine

There is great potential for this partnership to affect the quality of life for a large percentage (35 percent) of Idaho's population. The quality of air in municipal, K-12 schools, college and university buildings will be greatly enhanced, benefiting those who work and study within them.



Ada County Commissioners in front of the new courthouse, currently under construction.

To date, Rebuild America grants have exceeded expectations. Goals and objectives from the most recent Rebuild Idaho work were achieved within the first year of the two-year grant cycle. Rebuild Idaho's staff has continued to develop model approaches to community partnership development, already establishing two community partnerships consisting of county, city and school district partners. There is no doubt that this new program will continue to make Idaho a leader.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TREASURE VALLEY PARTNERSHIP, CONTACT:

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